

wherein said mid block B of at least some of said triblock copolymers includes a plurality of backbone carbon molecules and a plurality of side chains;

wherein said elastomer has a weight average molecular weight of at least about 300,000 when determined by gel permeation chromatography;

wherein said plasticizing polymer molecules, upon placement of the material under a load, tend to facilitate disentanglement and elongation of said mid blocks B during elongation of the material; and

wherein said plasticizing polymer molecules, upon release of the load from the material, tend to facilitate recontraction of the material.

18. A method as recited in claim 15 further comprising selecting an additive to be added to said triblock copolymer and said plasticizer prior to said compounding step;

wherein said additive is a melt viscosity modifier selected from the group consisting of hydrocarbon resins, transpolyoctenylene rubber, castor oil, linseed oil, non-ultra high molecular weight thermoplastic rubbers, surfactants, dispersants, and emulsifiers.

19. A method as recited in claim 15 wherein said "B" blocks of said A-B-A triblock copolymer have a plurality of side chains having a length of at least one carbon atom.

20. A method as recited in claim 15 wherein said side chains are found to typically occur on about one of every four backbone carbon atoms.

In the specification:

At page 2, please delete lines 5-9.

At page 2, line 4, please add the following:

PRIORITY: Priority is hereby claimed to each of the following: serial no. 08/783,413, filed January 10, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 5,994,450, which claims priority to provisional patent application serial no. 60/021,019 filed on July 1, 1996; provisional patent application serial no. 60/086,344 filed on May 21, 1998; serial no. 60/096,976 filed on August 18, 1998; provisional patent application serial no. 60/084,002 filed on May 3, 1998; provisional patent application serial no. 60/084,000 filed on May 3, 1998; provisional patent application serial no. 60/084,004 filed on May 3, 1998; provisional patent application serial no. 60/085,003 filed on May 3, 1998; and serial no. 08/968,750 filed on August 13, 1997, now U.S. Patent 6,026,527, which is a continuation-in-part of serial no. 08/601,374 filed on February 14, 1996, now U.S. Patent 5,749,111.